

LAS VEGAS

HAPPY NEW YEAR

REVIEW-JOURNAL



Richard Brian Las Vegas Review-Journal @VegasPhotograph
New Year's fireworks explode over the Strip as seen from the top of the Trump International, ringing in the entrance of 2018. ► More photos inside on Page 8A

'18 wheels in

Undaunted by Oct. 1 tragedy, throngs live it up in fine style

By Henry Brean • Las Vegas Review-Journal

Heavy doses of anxiety and security mixed with the usual revelry in Las Vegas on Sunday, as 2018 arrived as scheduled with a frenzy of fireworks and no reports of trouble.

An expected crowd of 330,000 exuberant visitors filled the Strip and Fremont Street downtown, as a record contingent of law enforcement officers kept the peace.

This year's massive outdoor party unfolded in the shadow of the Oct. 1 mass shooting, which left 58 people dead. In the run-up to midnight, police and national guard units lined Giles Street behind the Route 91 Harvest festival fairgrounds, scene of the attack.

Several people said they came to celebrate in spite of what happened three months ago.

"We figured this was probably the safest place anywhere in the world," Lynn Cherry, 59, said as she sat outside New York-New York with Alan Hale, 57.



Brazilian Humberto Carvalho takes a selfie with family members Sunday at the Bellagio fountains.

New Year's Eve roundup

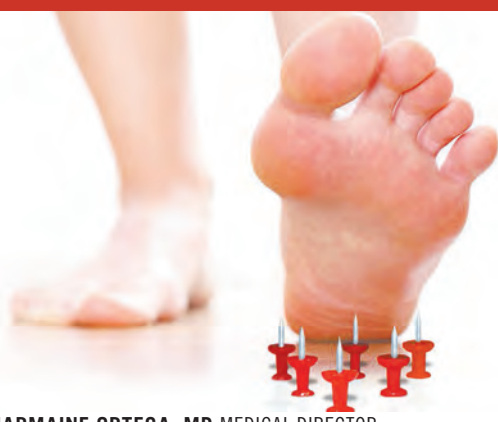
The nation and world welcome the new year
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The Panama City Beach, Florida, couple had set up a digital camera in anticipation of midnight fireworks above the MGM Grand. They also spotted police snipers perched atop Strip hotels.

Bianca Maldonado, 18, of Chino Hills, California, said she wasn't about to let the shooting dissuade her from continuing a family tradition.

"We've been celebrating New Year's Eve on the Strip for years," she said while encamped in front of the Bellagio fountains shortly after sunset with her aunt, Stella Gomez. "We love everything about this place: the music, atmosphere and the ambience in general."

See NEW YEAR'S 9A



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